



## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

February 2007  
Volume 73 Issue 2

# HI-Q



VE3FW—LARC call sign  
honours the memory of the  
Founding President  
P.J. "Pat" O'Shea

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## Annual Dinner Meeting

Saturday, February 17, 2007

*Slovak Legion-Sun Room,*

*801 Atlantic Avenue (East Entrance).*

Symposium 1800 hrs

Dinner 1830

Cash Bar

**Tickets available from  
all executive members**

## FOUND !!

**'AJ's Antenna Season horn has been located!**

It went missing sometime last fall before antenna season.  
Now we can rest easy knowing we will again be officially notified  
of the seasons!

**More details at Saturdays Annual Dinner Meeting**

- Annual Dinner Meeting  
February 17, 2007  
Get your tickets now!
- Next Meeting  
Thursday  
March 8, 2007  
at the McIntyre Building,  
Confederation College  
Room 191 at 7:30 pm
- Check out Northern Ontario  
Swap Net for buying and  
selling equipment !
- Check into the LARC  
2 Meter ARES Net on YQT  
every Tuesday evening at  
7:00 pm local time

## LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	Mount Baldy	147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR	St. Joseph's	146.820 (-600) 442.075 (+5 MHz)
VE3BGA	Hillcrest H.S.	145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz) 442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP	Upsala	145.470 (-600)



## LARC January 11, 2007 MINUTES

Judy VA3EAP, Secretary



Meeting called to order by President Terry VA3LU, followed by a round-table with members introducing themselves. There were 22 members present.

Minutes of December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting as posted in Hi-Q - motion to accept Bob VE3BHN, seconded by VE3TBX, motion carried.

Financial Report as posted in Hi-Q - motion to accept Joe VE3TBX, seconded by Andy VE3INI - motion carried.

### Committee Reports

**ARES**, Randy VA3OJ reported that the \$5700 is almost all spent, the equipment is bought and installed in the hospital. The TBR Repeater is basically together - new controller to be installed at St. Joseph=s in the next 2 - 3 weeks.

**Public Service**, Norm VE3XRC is looking for a few more operators for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sibley Ski Tour to be held March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please get in touch with him if you are interested. New operators, this is your chance to get involved in Public Service, it is exciting, gets you out in the great outdoors working with experienced Ham Operators, and it is also FUN!!!!..and F.Y.I. the LARC has been involved in every Sibley Ski Tour since the beginning, now that is a feather in our cap...kudos to all who have volunteered throughout the years.

### Old Business

Joe VE3TBX still has a few club hats left, \$10.00 each, call sign to be put on yourself. Bill VE3XT reported that classes for new amateurs will begin February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 p.m. and will continue for 8 weeks. They will be held at Confederation College, McIntyre Bldg. Rm 191.

### New Business

Phil VE3AXL enquired about an up-to-date callout list of members to be used for emergency situations, list having equipment/capabilities of members? Terry VA3LU assured Phil and all members that >all is well and we are in great shape for an emergency.

Joe VE3TBX presented the LARC Proposed Budget for 2007 (a copy handed out to all members) - a discussion followed - motion to accept the budget, Joe VE3TBX - seconded by Fort VE3MCZ, motion carried.

Bob VE3RVA reminded members of up-coming February 17<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting to be held at the Slovak Legion - please purchase tickets from any executive member, you will have a great meal, great time socializing, be entertained by a very interesting guest speaker and maybe even win a prize!

50/50 draw won by Bob VE3RVA.

Motion to adjourn - Bob VE3BHN.



**The annual dinner meeting will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2007**  
at the Slovak Legion-Sun Room, Atlantic Avenue.

The meal will again be a very delicious buffet with roast beef and chicken and many other food items.

Tickets are available from the executive at cost of \$24.00 per person.

**There will be a very interesting guest speaker.** This dinner meeting is usually a lot of fun.

Please come out and support your club.

**Anyone wishing to donate a door prize or prizes please contact Bob at 767-6924.**

Thank you,  
Bob VE3RVA



Joe VE3TBX

### Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report

**Opening Balance - January 5th., 2007** **\$ 5,806.63**

#### Income

Memberships	\$ 80.00
Interest	\$ 0.06
50/50 Draw	\$ 7.00
Ball Caps	\$ 30.00
Annual Dinner Tickets	\$ 384.00
Students	\$ 60.00

**Total Income** **\$ 561.06**

#### Expenses

Thunder Bay Telephone	\$ 45.75
Bank Service	\$ 4.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 35.00
Ares Radio Gear	\$ 260.66

**Total Expenses** **\$ 345.41**

**Closing Balance - February 2nd, 2007** **\$ 6,022.28**

**Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX**  
**Treasurer**



## CW STILL ALIVE !

Thanks to Wayne, VA3WRL

### SOME OF THE MORE COMMON ABBREVIATIONS IN CW WORK

ABT about  
AGN again  
ANT antenna  
BCI broadcast interference  
BCL broadcast listener  
BK break  
C yes  
CUD could  
CUL see you later  
CUZ because  
CW continuous wave  
DX distance  
ES and  
FB fine business; excellent  
GA go ahead; good afternoon  
GE good evening  
GM good morning  
GN good night  
GND ground

GUD good  
HI high; laugh  
HR here  
HV have  
HW how  
LID poor operator  
N no  
NW now  
NR number  
OB old boy  
OM old man  
OP operator  
OT old timer  
PSE please  
PWR power  
R received as transmitted  
RCD received  
RCVR receiver  
RFI radio freq. interference  
(telegraphic code)  
RIG station equipment  
RPT repeat; I repeat

SED said  
SIG signal; signature  
SKED schedule  
SRI sorry  
TMW tomorrow  
TNX thanks  
TVI television interference  
TT that  
TU thank you  
UR your  
VY very  
WKD-WKG worked - working  
WL well  
MSG message  
WUD would  
WX weather  
XMTR transmitter  
XTAL crystal  
XYL wife  
YL young lady

### ABBREVIATIONS USED IN TRAFFIC HANDLING

AA all after  
AB all before  
ADR address  
BN all between  
CFM confirm  
CK check  
DLD delivered  
GBA give better address  
MSG prefix to radiogram  
NIL nothing; I have nothing for you  
PBL preamble  
REF refer to  
SINE opr's personal initials  
TXT text  
VC prefix to service message  
WA word after  
WB word before  
WD word  
  
ZAN we can receive absolutely nothing  
ZAP acknowledge please \*  
ZCS cease sending  
ZFB your signals are fading

badly  
ZFS your signals are fading slightly  
ZGS your signals are getting stronger  
ZGW your signals are getting weaker  
ZHC how are your receiving conditions? \*  
ZLB give long breaks  
ZMO stand by a moment  
ZMQ stand by for...  
ZRO are you receiving OK? \*  
ZSF send faster  
ZSU your sigs are unreadable  
ZSS send slower  
ZTH send by hand  
ZUB we are unable to break you \*  
ZVS signals varying in intensity  
ZWO send words once  
ZWR your sigs weak but readable  
ZWT send words twice

ZVF your signals are varying in frequency  
ZDH your dits are too heavy(long), please adjust  
ZDL your dits are too light(short), please adjust\*

\*You will notice that these signals are much easier to remember than the Q-signals. The two letters following Z- are suggestive. (QST 1943 No p.63)Δ

**Part 2 next month!**

**One of the Reasons CW Wins - Always!!**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhsSgcsTMd4>

Besides, which mode won out and saved the world in the blockbuster Hollywood movie Independence Day? Have fun all! Cheers, Carl, KI8GM.

Tnx to George W8FWG



## What If ? by Phil, VE3AXL



### What if?

**R**ecent weather storms have disrupted people's lives and caused extensive property damage. These events haven't happened locally, but they do raise the question of "how prepared will we be if they did.?"

Many believe that nothing serious can happen here, but if it did, it would be only for a short time, and then all would be back to normal.

For the past year the American government has been telling the public to be prepared to take care of themselves for at least 72 hours, as the government won't be able to.

Lately the Canadian government has been repeating the same message.

The original focus of this article was to have been about radio equipment and radio skills but if ones family is not safe and secure, radio will be the last thing on your mind.

While we have always been able to cope with bad weather, I wonder how far we are from the next ice storm, or unusual high windstorm that will disrupt our hydro system?

For most people, no hydro means the basics, heat, food, transportation and communications, as we know it will not exist or be drastically cutback after the first 12-24 hours. Houses will be cold, there would be no light, food in the fridge would go bad and there would be little water. No electricity means no communications.

Many of us live a life style that requires regular services. There is a partially full gas tank, the fridge has a few days worth of groceries, there is a small amount of cash on hand, and we depend upon our collection of plastic cards for these daily services.

Guess what! No hydro means that the plastic cards won't work, and that means no services. You won't be able to go to your bank and withdraw your money because they will be closed and locked due to the power failure. Grocery store, gas pumps as well. Check it out!

Yes, we have heard all this before but what do you have on hand now, and what will you do to provide for your family?

With careful planning and preparation you can do a

great deal to help yourself.

Make a list of what your basic needs would be and what you could do to provide them

While not a pleasant topic, discuss your plans with your family. Think along the lines of an extended camping trip. The government advertises a basic list of items on the net. Go to the backpacker and survival sites on the net as they provide extensive information.

Many people have portable camp stoves or barbeques that can cook full meals. Please don't cook inside! Candles provide light but can easily start fires. Led lights provide an equal amount of light and can last of weeks. You do have a supply of batteries around the house? In the old days many country people would fill the bathtub with water in the event of a large storm. This would provide water for washing and then flushing. Maybe there is a rain barrel that is full? Do you have a chemical toilet that could be setup in the garage or shed?

A couple of gallon containers of water can be frozen outside and placed in the fridge converting it to an icebox. It works and will keep your food for days!

These are only a few ideas that can help you. Your comfort and security depends upon you and the resources that you can quickly lay your hands on in time of need.

You do have a couple of gas cans that are full, tucked away.

In the extreme event that you have to evacuate your home and relocate to a shelter, do you have all the personal medication you need for your family? How about copies of important papers? By the way it is illegal to make copies of government documents, ie drivers license, health cards etc. Go figure. You make the decision as to what is best for you!

It might be a good idea to discuss your plans and ideas with others, we all can learn from others and their experiences, it can also help us from making dangerous mistakes.

Again this may sound pretty far fetched but look at the media reports here in Canada over the past few years and remember that you family's health and security depends on what you have on hand, not what your are going to do when you get around to it. Δ





## Automating our Membership Lists - Update

by Leo, VE3ATC



### LARC Members Listing

2006 - 2007



**This members list is dynamically updated from our new Membership Database and is undergoing web testing.**  
**If you have problems with this page, or have any questions please contact Leo VE3ATC**  
The information being displayed is a sampling of the database, is not yet complete, and will be corrected as the records are entered and updated

Home
LARC Club Info
LARC Executive
Member Lists
HI-Q Newsletter
Email Listings
ARES
Classes
Our Repeaters
Public Services
Repeater Listing
IRLP
History of LARC

#### Senators (also included with Full Members)

Call	Lname	Fname
VA3LU	Stewardson	Terry
VE3AVS	Kimpton	Dave
VE3BCD	Bridget	Lauri
VE3JQ	Fiske	Keith
VE3PD	Doherty	Pat
VE3SNW	Baumann	Ed

#### Full Members

Call	Lname	Fname
KB0BON	Johnson	Rick

02/06/07

It's on the web!

Last month the members database was being finalized and is now workable. It will need some tuning to make it very user friendly. Hopefully, this will be all done by fall.

In the meantime, the interface to our website [LARCLUB](#) has been put into service as shown above. When going to the website, click on 'Member Lists' on the left side menu. This will take you to the new web page.

The members list is updated real time, and will

reflect changes as soon as they are entered into the database by the secretary, treasurer, or administrator.

In the next week, or so, all the members details should be entered or updated thus showing our current membership.

If you are a member and don't see your name or call, please allow time for the completion of the database entries and updating. A notice on the page will be shown when the entries have been completed.

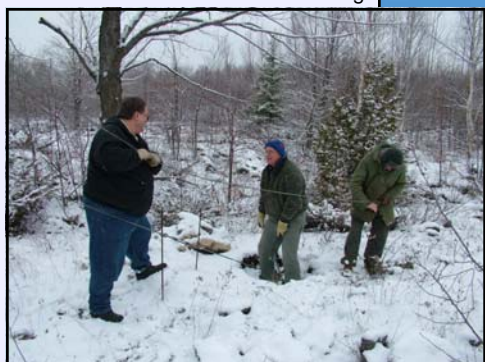
As this is still being tested, please feel free to email or call me if you see any problems or have comments that may help make this feature better! Δ

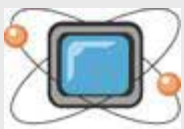
## VA3AAG Tower Raising—submitted by Gerald, VA3BRN

Detail of Ginpole and John

John Ludwig working

Jim ve3wa John ve3bzt and va3aag



**Editors QSK...****ON THE  
WEB**

thanks to  
**John,**  
**VE3EMI**

**Modern technology!**

<http://www.biertijd.com/mediaplayer/flvplayer.swf?file=http://media.biertijd.com/movies/200610/onderen.flv&autoplay=true&fs=true>

**E-layer critical frequencies**

<http://www.spacew.com/www/foe.html>

**Northern Ontario  
Swap Net**

<http://my.tbaytel.net/ve3pdpat/nontsale.htm>

Or use link on  
[Larclub.net](http://Larclub.net)

**LARC ARES  
2 Meter Net**

**Every Tuesday  
at  
7:00 pm**

Hi  
Well, we are into February and it feels like winter, except for the lack of any real snow cover!

This may be a serious problem for the Sibley Ski Tour in March if the weather doesn't change. Norm, **VE3XRC** will be busy staying on top of this to keep all the LARC operators informed, I'm sure!

Phil, **VE3AXL**'s article 'What If?' raises a lot of good points about our preparedness for serious weather and environmental events. With the changing weather for our area, we may start to see more violent weather related problems, power outages, damages, and related injuries than the mild weather presented in the past.

I am also under the impression the government or city is of little use in the short term to assist or help with resulting emergency responses after a particularly disastrous event. A few years

ago a moderate windstorm with blown over trees left us without power for three days within our part of the city while the city scrambled to repair damages. A real tornado, with downed power lines, loss of power substations, loss of communications, destroyed homes and serious injuries is a realistic possibility with the milder summers.

Is our club fully prepared to fill in the gaps and possibly lead in some areas while the city and government struggle to get their act together?

Thanks again for all the contributors to this months Hi-Q! Your input is important and appreciated!

...—

73, Leo VE3ATC

email: [ve3atc@spruce.ca](mailto:ve3atc@spruce.ca)

Ps. Not a writer and have a story or pictures? Contact me and I will help get it out!

See  
You  
At  
The  
Meeting!!

**Next regular meeting**

**Thursday  
March 8, 2007**

McIntyre Building, Confederation  
College

Room 191

**7:30 pm**

**A BIT OF WIT**

One day, the Captain of the 40-oared royal barge goes down to speak to the slaves in the hold of his ship. "Men, I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is, the Queen will be joining us today for a trip up the Nile." The men cheered and rattled their chains. "The bad news is, she wants to go water skiing."

**THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB JOURNAL**

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LARC is a member of [RAC](#)

**LARC PUBLIC SERVICES****ARES**

**District Emergency Coordinator**  
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**Emergency Coordinator**  
VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

**CANWARN**

VA3JMS John 767-3631  
VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

**Public Service Events**

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**RAC**

[Radio Amateurs of Canada](#)

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Pat Doherty	VE3PD
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett	VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson	VA3LU
Ed Baumann	VE3SNW

**LARC  
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Terry Stewardson VA3LU 577-9439

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Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924

**Secretary**

Judy Artist VA3EAP

**Treasurer**

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566

**Directors**

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ 474-0910

Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG 767-1714

Bill Unger VE3XT 344-1848

**Past President**

John Sacek VA3JMS 767-3631

**About LARC**

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June  
at 7:30 PM local time at the  
McIntyre Building, Confederation College  
Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC to help you with your Amateur Radio License  
*contact any of the Executive members above for more information*



**2005/2006 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION****LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC****1100C MEMORIAL AVE, SUITE 184,  
THUNDER BAY, ONT P7B4A3****CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP****FULL MEMBERSHIP \$35.00-open only to licensed amateurs****NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY** \_\_\_\_\_**TELEPHONE:** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTAL CODE** \_\_\_\_\_**MAY WE PUBLISH THE PHONE NUMBER yes / no****MAY WE DELIVER HI-Q BY E-MAIL? yes / no****CALL(S)** \_\_\_\_\_**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP-** immediate family residing at the same address holding licenses.  
**\$35.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional amateur.****NAMES AND CALLS**\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP-** \$15.00-open to persons enrolled full time in an education  
facility, list School and program \_\_\_\_\_**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP-**\$20.00-upon approval of the Board and open to:

1)Non holders of an amateur radio license.

2)Licensed amateurs living outside the immediate Thunder Bay area or are unable to attend regular  
meetings of the club.If you feel you qualify for associate membership, please indicate why, on a separate sheet, to be used  
by the Board to consider your application.**Please mail or bring this form to the next meeting with your cash or cheque for membership fees.****Cheques should be made payable to Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.****Applications and cheques can also be dropped off at the above address.**